

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2116
ANSWERED ON:06.08.2001
CLOSURE OF ESI HOSPITALS
AMBATI BRAHMANAIAH

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

- (a) whether patient care is not of high standards at ESI hospitals;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether there is any plan to close down some of these hospitals and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps proposed to improve patient care at ESI hospitals?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL)

(a) to (d): Keeping in view the fast technological advancement and the changes required within the existing institutions, the ESI Corporation has approved an Action Plan to bring about improvement in medical services under the ESI Scheme. Accordingly, the Corporation has decided to set up super-speciality services within the existing ESI hospitals so as to provide medical, surgical, diagnostic and rehabilitative facilities along with 24 hour availability of accident, emergency and critical care services. As medical care under the ESI Scheme is being administered by the State Governments/UT Administrations, the ESIC has requested them to make tie up contractual arrangements with local reputed medical institutions to ensure that the ESI beneficiaries get super-speciality treatment. A revolving fund has also been set up with Regional Directors of ESIC in most of the States to grant advance/medical reimbursement to insured persons for super-speciality treatment. At present there are no plans to close down any of the hospitals.